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JOB VACANCIES AND OVERTIME, AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1990

PHONE INQUIRIES

• *about these statistics and the availability of related unpublished statistics* — contact Mr Mark Patton on Canberra (06) 252 5946 or any ABS State office.

• *about other statistics and ABS services* — contact Information Services on Canberra (06) 252 5402, 252 6007, 252 6627 or any ABS State office.

MAIL INQUIRIES

• *write to* Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any ABS State office.

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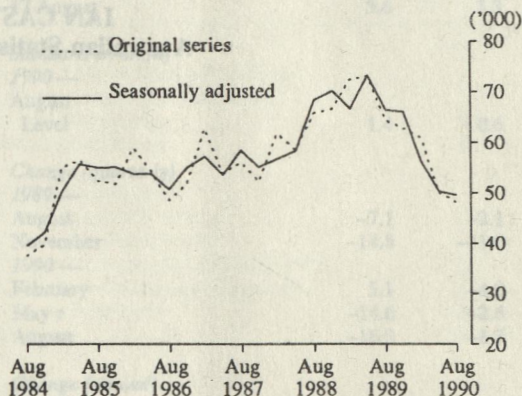
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Job vacancies:

The estimated number of vacancies at 17 August 1990 on a seasonally adjusted basis was 49,600, a 1.3 per cent decrease on May 1990 and a 25.3 per cent decrease on August 1989. The seasonally adjusted estimate for August 1990 is the lowest since November 1984 (42,300).

In original terms, August 1990 vacancies were estimated at 48,100, 3.9 per cent lower than for May 1990. The August 1990 estimate, in original terms, was the lowest since November 1984 (39,800). The largest decrease, when compared to May 1990, was recorded in Victoria (a decrease of 2,600 vacancies, or 20.3 per cent) while in New South Wales estimated vacancies increased by 5.9 per cent.

JOB VACANCIES, AUSTRALIA



There were 32,700 private sector vacancies in August 1990, a fall of 1.4 per cent compared to May 1990, while public sector vacancies fell by 8.8 per cent to 15,400 in the same period.

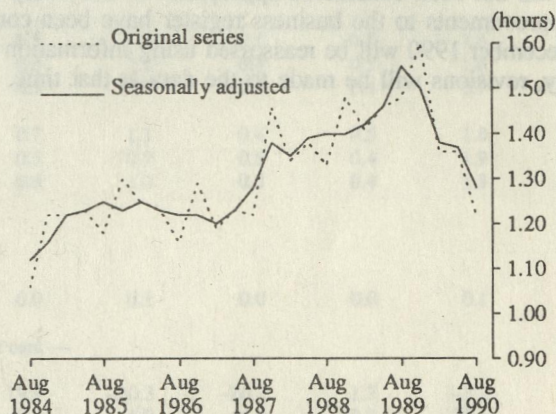
The Wholesale and retail trade industry recorded the largest decline from May 1990 with a fall of 3,200 vacancies.

The job vacancy rate for Australia fell to 0.84 per cent, compared to May 1990 (0.86 per cent).

Overtime:

Estimated average weekly overtime hours per employee (seasonally adjusted) for August 1990 was 1.28 hours, a decrease of 6.5 per cent from the May 1990 estimate of 1.37 hours. In original terms, the estimate was 1.22 hours, a decrease of 10.6 per cent compared to May 1990. All States and Territories recorded decreases except for the Australian Capital Territory which had an increase of 14.2 per cent.

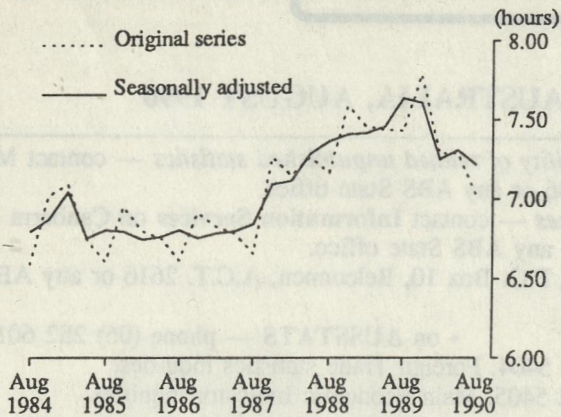
AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS PER EMPLOYEE, AUSTRALIA



On a seasonally adjusted basis, estimated average weekly overtime hours per employee working overtime in August 1990 (7.22) decreased 1.1 per cent compared to May 1990 (7.31). The original series for August decreased 3.5 per cent from the previous quarter at the national level. At the State level, Victoria recorded a significant decrease of 9.3 per cent from 7.94 hours in May to 7.21 hours in August while the Australian Capital Territory increased by 15.1 per cent to 7.24 hours.

The seasonally adjusted estimate of the percentage of employees working overtime in August 1990 was 17.64, a decrease of 5.9 per cent compared to May 1990 and a decrease of 12.9 per cent on August 1989. The original series displayed similar movements nationally and all States and Territories recorded decreases compared with May 1990.

AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS PER EMPLOYEE WORKING OVERTIME, AUSTRALIA



Estimated average weekly overtime hours per employee showed significant decreases in several Manufacturing industries - Transport equipment, Paper, paper products, printing and publishing and Other manufacturing. The Wholesale trade industry also showed a significant decrease. Food, beverages and tobacco manufacturing was the only industry to show an increase.

For employees working overtime, average weekly hours worked per employee decreased significantly in the Textiles, clothing and footwear and Paper, paper products, printing and publishing manufacturing industries.

NOTE

Explanatory Notes and Glossary are published at the back of this publication.

This survey uses as its sampling frame the ABS's register of businesses which is regularly updated to take account of new businesses and businesses ceasing operation. A major source of information on new businesses is group employer (GE) registrations with the Australian Tax Office. The ABS is developing an improved computerised system which will reduce the delay in new businesses from this source being recorded on the register, while at the same time undertaking an analysis to identify businesses which have been omitted from the register in the past. During the time these improvements to the register are being implemented, it has been necessary to temporarily suspend updating the register from GE registrations. The effect is that the survey will not represent new GE businesses in the period June to December 1990. The non-representation of these units would have a major effect on the estimates only if the overtime worked by employees of such units is significantly different from that of the rest of the population. This is considered unlikely, and so it has not been considered appropriate to make any adjustments to the estimates in this publication. However, when the improvements to the business register have been completed in 1991 the series in this publication for the period June to December 1990 will be reassessed using information that will then be available concerning new GE businesses. If necessary, revisions will be made to the data at that time.

IAN CASTLES
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. TOTAL JOB VACANCIES : PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS, STATES AND TERRITORIES

Reference date	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
PRIVATE SECTOR									
— ' 000 —									
1989 —									
19 May	16.9	19.6	7.8	3.0	3.1	* 0.4	* 0.6	* 0.7	52.2
18 August	14.0	15.0	7.0	3.3	3.5	* 0.4	* 0.5	* 0.7	44.4
17 November	16.8	13.3	6.0	3.0	2.6	* 0.8	0.4	* 0.4	43.4
1990 —									
16 February	16.4	* 11.8	* 5.0	* 3.3	3.4	0.8	* 0.5	* 0.9	42.0
18 May r	13.2	* 9.5	* 4.7	* 2.8	1.8	* 0.5	0.2	* 0.4	33.2
17 August	15.4	7.2	* 5.3	1.5	2.1	* 0.6	* 0.4	* 0.4	32.7
Standard errors(a)									
1990 —									
August									
Level	2.8	1.4	1.4	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	3.4
Change (quarterly)	— per cent —								
1989 —									
August	-16.9	-23.7	-11.1	10.5	10.5	-2.5	-17.6	4.6	-14.9
November	20.0	-11.2	-13.7	-9.8	-25.4	93.7	-27.3	-42.6	-2.4
1990 —									
February	-2.3	-11.5	-17.6	10.9	30.8	-6.9	29.6	110.2	-3.1
May r	-20.0	-19.4	-4.3	-14.4	-46.3	-33.4	-47.6	-55.7	-21.0
August	17.2	-24.7	11.1	-48.8	13.8	11.5	55.7	6.2	-1.4
Change (annual)									
1990 —									
August	9.9	-52.3	-24.4	-56.2	-40.4	33.9	-23.1	-43.2	-26.3
PUBLIC SECTOR									
— ' 000 —									
1989 —									
19 May	9.5	4.4	* 2.6	0.5	1.4	0.5	0.5	1.6	20.9
18 August	8.8	4.4	2.7	0.6	1.1	0.4	0.5	1.6	19.9
17 November	7.5	3.9	3.3	0.5	1.0	0.5	0.6	1.9	19.3
1990 —									
16 February	7.9	3.7	2.8	0.7	1.1	0.4	0.5	1.8	18.9
18 May r	6.7	3.6	2.3	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.4	1.9	16.9
17 August	5.6	3.3	2.3	0.6	1.0	0.3	0.4	1.8	15.4
Standard errors(a)									
1990 —									
August									
Level	1.4	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.5
Change (quarterly)	— per cent —								
1989 —									
August	-7.1	-2.1	3.8	19.9	-20.3	-26.2	1.7	-3.2	-4.9
November	-14.8	-11.0	23.5	-9.9	-6.9	46.4	39.2	23.6	-2.9
1990 —									
February	5.1	-4.0	-15.5	43.4	8.4	-28.2	-16.7	-8.0	-2.0
May r	-14.6	-2.6	-17.2	-31.9	-17.1	25.6	-17.4	5.9	-10.8
August	-16.0	-8.7	1.1	17.1	7.0	-28.3	-12.9	-4.0	-8.8
Change (annual)									
1990 —									
August	-35.8	-24.0	-12.6	3.0	-10.5	-5.2	-16.7	15.7	-22.6

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 1. TOTAL JOB VACANCIES : PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS, STATES AND TERRITORIES —continued

Reference date	Original series									Seasonally adjusted series
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Aust.
TOTAL										
— '000 —										
1989 —										
19 May	26.3	24.1	10.4	3.5	4.5	0.9	1.1	2.3	73.1	73.2
18 August	22.8	19.3	9.6	3.9	4.6	0.8	1.0	2.3	64.3	66.4
17 November	24.3	17.2	9.3	3.5	3.6	1.4	1.0	2.3	62.7	66.0
1990 —										
16 February	24.3	15.5	7.7	* 4.1	4.5	1.2	1.0	2.6	60.9	56.1
18 May r	19.9	13.1	7.1	* 3.4	2.7	1.0	0.7	2.3	50.1	50.3
17 August	21.1	10.5	7.6	2.0	3.0	0.9	0.8	2.2	48.1	49.6
Standard errors(a)										
1990 —										
August										
Level	3.1	1.5	1.4	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.2	3.7	(b)
Change (quarterly)										
— per cent —										
1989 —										
August	-13.4	-19.7	-7.4	11.7	1.1	-14.8	-9.4	-0.9	-12.1	-9.3
November	6.6	-11.1	-3.4	-9.8	-21.0	72.3	4.5	3.0	-2.5	-0.6
1990 —										
February	0.0	-9.8	-16.9	15.7	24.4	-15.1	0.1	12.6	-2.8	-15.1
May r	-18.3	-15.4	-8.9	-17.6	-39.1	-14.2	-31.6	-14.1	-17.8	-10.4
August	5.9	-20.3	7.8	-39.0	11.5	-7.4	11.8	-2.3	-3.9	-1.3
Change (annual)										
1990 —										
August	-7.7	-45.9	-21.1	-47.5	-33.2	16.2	-20.0	-2.7	-25.2	-25.3

(a) See paragraphs 9 to 13 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) See paragraph 10 of the Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 2. JOB VACANCY RATES, STATES AND TERRITORIES
(per cent)

Reference date	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
1989 —									
19 May	1.18	1.51	* 1.19	0.74	0.91	0.65	1.89	1.72	1.22
18 August	1.05	1.22	1.07	0.81	0.90	0.56	1.83	1.81	1.08
17 November	1.20	1.07	1.10	0.75	0.75	0.92	1.88	1.93	1.09
1990 —									
16 February	1.18	0.97	0.89	* 0.86	0.92	0.80	1.84	2.21	1.05
18 May r	0.95	0.83	0.82	* 0.70	0.56	0.69	1.30	1.90	0.86
17 August	1.03	0.67	0.89	0.44	0.63	0.66	1.40	1.88	0.84
Standard errors(a)									
1990 —									
August									
Level	0.18	0.09	0.16	0.07	0.10	0.11	0.23	0.15	0.07
Change (quarterly)									
1989 —									
August	-11.3	-19.2	-9.9	10.6	-1.0	-14.2	-2.8	5.1	-11.6
November	14.2	-12.1	2.6	-8.2	-17.4	66.0	2.7	6.3	1.0
1990 —									
February	-1.3	-9.3	-19.4	14.7	23.6	-13.5	-2.4	14.7	-3.6
May r	-19.4	-14.6	-7.2	-18.0	-38.9	-13.2	-29.4	-14.1	-17.7
August	8.4	-19.3	7.5	-37.8	12.8	-4.9	8.3	-0.8	-2.5
Change (annual)									
1990 —									
August	-1.5	-45.0	-17.5	-46.2	-29.6	18.6	-23.3	3.9	-21.9

(a) See paragraphs 9 to 13 of the Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 3. JOB VACANCIES : INDUSTRY, AUSTRALIA
(^{'000})

	Reference period - pay period ending on or before						
	1989			1990			Standard error(a)
Industry	19 May	18 Aug	17 Nov.	16 Feb.	18 May r	17 Aug.	
Manufacturing —	15.4	13.7	11.7	* 12.0	8.0	9.1	2.1
Basic and fabricated metal products, other machinery and equipment, transport equipment	6.8	6.7	5.5	* 5.7	2.3	* 2.8	0.9
Other manufacturing	8.6	6.9	6.2	* 6.3	* 5.7	* 6.3	1.9
Non-Manufacturing —							
Electricity, gas and water	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.0
Wholesale and retail trade	13.4	13.9	14.1	12.4	13.7	10.5	1.8
Transport and storage; Communication	3.5	* 2.2	2.3	* 2.4	* 1.1	* 1.4	0.6
Public administration and defence(b)	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.1	4.4	4.0	0.4
Community services	14.4	14.7	12.8	11.5	10.6	10.3	1.5
Other(c)	20.4	14.1	16.2	17.1	11.8	12.0	1.9
Total all industries	73.1	64.3	62.7	60.9	50.1	48.1	3.7

(a) Relates only to latest level estimate. See paragraphs 9 to 13 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Excludes permanent defence forces. (c) Includes Mining, Construction, Finance, property and business services and Recreation, personal and other services.

TABLE 4. OVERTIME : STATES AND TERRITORIES

Reference period — pay period ending on or before	Original series								Seasonally adjusted series	
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Aust.
AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS PER EMPLOYEE										
	— hours —									
1989 —										
19 May	1.36	1.57	1.53	1.12	1.70	1.40	2.02	1.23	1.46	1.46
18 August	1.42	1.60	1.47	1.28	1.70	1.07	2.01	1.08	1.48	1.55
17 November	1.43	1.89	1.41	1.42	2.00	1.41	1.86	0.92	1.60	1.50
1990 —										
16 February	1.29	1.52	1.21	1.18	1.67	1.54	1.64	0.70	1.36	1.38
18 May r	1.28	1.53	1.26	1.21	1.57	1.37	1.66	0.90	1.36	1.37
17 August	1.21	1.24	1.14	1.06	1.48	1.20	1.58	1.03	1.22	1.28
Standard errors(a)										
1990 —										
August										
Level	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.09	0.12	0.09	0.14	0.15	0.03	(b)
Change (quarterly)										
1989 —										
August	4.2	1.8	-3.6	13.9	0.0	-23.8	-0.4	-12.1	1.6	6.2
November	0.7	18.4	-4.2	10.7	17.3	32.2	-7.4	-15.4	8.0	-3.0
1990 —										
February	-9.8	-19.8	-14.0	-16.8	-16.4	9.6	-11.8	-23.4	-14.6	-8.4
May r	-0.9	1.1	3.4	2.7	-5.9	-11.0	0.7	28.5	0.0	-0.7
August	-5.7	-18.8	-9.5	-12.4	-5.5	-12.8	-4.4	14.2	-10.6	-6.5
Change (annual)										
1990 —										
August	-15.0	-22.0	-22.9	-17.1	-12.9	12.4	-21.4	-4.9	-17.6	-17.6
AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS PER EMPLOYEE WORKING OVERTIME										
	— hours —									
1989 —										
19 May	7.04	7.91	7.34	6.83	8.07	7.64	9.52	7.10	7.44	7.46
18 August	7.10	7.81	7.57	7.41	7.73	6.08	8.29	6.94	7.43	7.64
17 November	7.09	8.84	6.85	7.68	8.82	7.58	8.58	7.10	7.79	7.61
1990 —										
16 February	6.99	7.88	6.88	6.68	7.66	7.63	8.55	6.03	7.29	7.25
18 May r	6.95	7.94	6.95	6.76	7.84	6.77	7.89	6.29	7.29	7.31
17 August	6.87	7.21	6.67	6.61	7.96	6.83	8.54	7.24	7.03	7.22
Standard errors(a)										
1990 —										
August										
Level	0.23	0.24	0.21	0.33	0.39	0.37	0.72	0.48	0.12	(b)
Change (quarterly)										
1989 —										
August	0.8	-1.3	3.1	8.5	-4.2	-20.5	-12.9	-2.2	-0.1	2.4
November	-0.1	13.1	-9.6	3.6	14.0	24.7	3.5	2.4	4.8	-0.4
1990 —										
February	-1.4	-10.8	0.5	-13.0	-13.2	0.7	-0.3	-15.1	-6.5	-4.6
May r	-0.6	0.8	1.0	1.2	2.3	-11.3	-7.7	4.4	0.0	0.7
August	-1.1	-9.3	-4.0	-2.2	1.5	0.9	8.2	15.1	-3.5	-1.1
Change (annual)										
1990 —										
August	-3.2	-7.8	-11.9	-10.8	2.9	12.3	3.1	4.4	-5.4	-5.4

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 4. OVERTIME : STATES AND TERRITORIES —continued

Reference period — pay period ending on or before	Original series								Seasonally adjusted series	
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Aust.
PERCENTAGE OF EMPLOYEES WORKING OVERTIME										
1989 —										
19 May	19.37	19.81	20.84	16.45	21.10	18.30	21.23	17.38	19.56	19.61
18 August	20.03	20.42	19.49	17.26	22.02	17.53	24.29	15.63	19.88	20.25
17 November	20.21	21.37	20.63	18.45	22.64	18.58	21.74	12.91	20.48	19.69
1990 —										
16 February	18.50	19.23	17.66	17.63	21.78	20.22	19.22	11.66	18.69	19.05
18 May r	18.45	19.29	18.07	17.90	20.04	20.29	20.97	14.35	18.70	18.75
17 August	17.60	17.26	17.04	16.03	18.65	17.54	18.52	14.24	17.32	17.64
Standard errors(a)										
1990 —										
August										
Level	0.80	0.80	0.85	1.44	1.07	0.92	1.55	1.31	0.41	(b)
Change (quarterly)										
1989 —										
August	3.4	3.1	-6.5	4.9	4.4	-4.2	14.4	-10.1	1.7	3.3
November	0.9	4.7	5.9	6.9	2.8	6.0	-10.5	-17.4	3.0	-2.8
1990 —										
February	-8.5	-10.0	-14.4	-4.5	-3.8	8.8	-11.6	-9.7	-8.7	-3.3
May r	-0.2	0.3	2.4	1.5	-8.0	0.4	9.1	23.1	0.0	-1.5
August	-4.6	-10.5	-5.7	-10.4	-6.9	-13.5	-11.7	-0.7	-7.3	-5.9
Change (annual)										
1990 —										
August	-12.1	-15.4	-12.5	-7.1	-15.3	0.1	-23.8	-8.9	-12.9	-12.9

(a) See paragraphs 9 to 13 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) See paragraph 10 of the Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 5. AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS PER EMPLOYEE : MANUFACTURING

Reference period — pay period ending on or before	Original series								Seasonally adjusted series	
	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia	Aust.
— hours —										
1989 —										
19 May	3.06	3.44	3.21	2.24	3.04	2.61	2.70	1.77	3.10	3.16
18 August	3.21	3.41	2.76	2.85	2.80	2.03	3.05	2.19	3.13	3.32
17 November	3.48	4.66	2.65	2.97	3.39	2.68	3.44	1.33	3.71	3.44
1990 —										
16 February	2.97	3.46	2.50	2.66	3.10	2.94	2.95	1.46	3.05	3.07
18 May r	2.76	3.48	2.50	2.74	3.20	2.44	3.21	1.49	3.00	3.06
17 August	2.56	2.70	2.08	2.12	2.96	2.19	2.75	1.54	2.52	2.67
Standard errors(a)										
1990 —										
August										
Level	0.22	0.23	0.24	0.32	0.46	0.17	0.37	0.26	0.12	(b)
Change (quarterly)										
1989 —										
August	4.9	-0.8	-14.1	27.0	-7.8	-22.4	12.6	23.4	1.0	5.1
November	8.7	36.9	-4.0	4.3	21.0	32.3	13.1	-39.1	18.7	3.4
1990 —										
February	-14.6	-25.9	-5.4	-10.7	-8.5	9.9	-14.5	9.6	-17.8	-10.8
May r	-7.2	0.6	-0.3	3.1	3.2	-17.1	8.9	2.2	-1.8	-0.2
August	-7.2	-22.4	-16.6	-22.4	-7.6	-10.4	-14.2	3.4	-16.1	-12.6
Change (annual)										
1990 —										
August	-20.1	-20.8	-24.5	-25.4	5.5	8.0	-9.6	-29.4	-19.6	-19.6

(a) See paragraphs 9 to 13 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) See paragraph 10 of the Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 6. OVERTIME : INDUSTRY, AUSTRALIA

Industry	Reference period - pay period ending on or before						Standard error(a)
	1989			1990			
	19 May	18 Aug	17 Nov.	16 Feb.	18 May r	17 Aug.	
AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS PER EMPLOYEE							
Mining	5.52	5.84	5.92	5.70	5.55	5.44	0.43
Manufacturing	3.10	3.13	3.71	3.05	3.00	2.52	0.12
Food,beverages and tobacco	2.73	2.82	3.42	3.06	2.67	2.77	0.18
Textiles; Clothing and footwear	2.86	2.59	3.86	3.21	* 3.29	2.83	0.69
Paper, paper products, printing and publishing	1.90	2.00	2.36	2.05	2.05	1.54	0.35
Chemical, petroleum and coal products	3.04	2.81	3.10	3.12	2.71	2.57	0.23
Basic metal products	5.30	5.04	4.93	4.68	4.79	4.23	0.10
Fabricated metal products; Other machinery and equipment	3.51	3.28	3.99	3.01	2.89	2.38	0.30
Transport equipment	3.43	4.05	4.15	3.00	3.28	2.34	0.24
Other manufacturing	3.17	3.21	3.72	2.88	3.06	2.30	0.26
Electricity, gas and water	1.94	1.90	1.85	2.11	2.12	2.10	0.03
Construction	2.47	2.99	2.96	2.68	2.62	2.52	0.33
Wholesale trade	1.26	1.23	1.41	1.30	1.50	1.07	0.12
Retail trade	0.74	0.73	0.77	0.66	0.79	0.76	0.07
Transport and storage; Communication	2.82	3.06	2.82	2.25	2.11	2.10	0.15
Public administration and defence(b)	0.79	0.82	0.87	0.96	0.92	0.84	0.06
Community services	0.41	0.40	0.39	0.39	0.45	0.42	0.02
Other(c)	0.67	0.68	0.70	0.55	0.58	0.53	0.06
All industries	1.46	1.48	1.60	1.36	1.36	1.22	0.03
AVERAGE WEEKLY OVERTIME HOURS PER EMPLOYEE WORKING OVERTIME							
Mining	11.66	11.81	11.51	10.84	10.56	10.56	0.46
Manufacturing	8.73	8.38	9.25	8.39	8.79	8.08	0.21
Food,beverages and tobacco	7.43	7.32	8.41	8.03	8.09	7.68	0.34
Textiles; Clothing and footwear	9.82	8.52	11.33	10.08	11.75	9.82	1.47
Paper, paper products, printing and publishing	7.60	7.24	8.06	7.53	8.06	6.39	0.85
Chemical, petroleum and coal products	8.36	8.13	8.85	9.57	8.82	8.78	0.49
Basic metal products	10.73	10.24	10.52	9.64	9.77	9.23	0.19
Fabricated metal products; Other machinery and equipment	8.72	8.21	9.28	8.11	7.88	7.79	0.43
Transport equipment	8.77	9.31	9.31	7.65	8.58	7.78	0.33
Other manufacturing	9.34	8.82	8.99	8.17	9.43	8.31	0.39
Electricity, gas and water	7.76	7.57	7.40	7.70	7.85	8.08	0.08
Construction	8.80	9.01	9.50	8.66	8.41	8.52	0.58
Wholesale trade	6.54	6.28	7.04	7.04	7.70	6.80	0.43
Retail trade	4.51	4.59	4.54	4.17	4.66	4.60	0.28
Transport and storage; Communication	8.53	8.72	8.98	7.96	7.40	7.53	0.32
Public administration and defence(b)	5.86	5.72	6.04	6.54	5.76	5.73	0.31
Community services	6.26	6.20	5.94	6.16	6.12	6.03	0.27
Other(c)	5.36	5.80	5.65	5.49	5.39	5.48	0.37
All industries	7.44	7.43	7.79	7.29	7.29	7.03	0.12
PERCENTAGE OF EMPLOYEES WORKING OVERTIME							
Mining	47.33	49.42	51.45	52.63	52.62	51.50	2.38
Manufacturing	35.50	37.32	40.15	36.39	34.14	31.14	1.19
Food,beverages and tobacco	36.73	38.48	40.63	38.15	32.94	36.07	2.26
Textiles; Clothing and footwear	29.12	30.41	34.11	31.83	27.99	28.80	4.42
Paper, paper products, printing and publishing	25.05	27.63	29.28	27.28	25.42	24.19	5.33
Chemical, petroleum and coal products	36.36	34.59	35.03	32.60	30.74	29.30	1.99
Basic metal products	49.38	49.20	46.89	48.52	49.02	45.86	1.46
Fabricated metal products; Other machinery and equipment	40.22	39.97	43.00	37.10	36.74	30.60	2.94
Transport equipment	39.11	43.51	44.53	39.20	38.21	30.04	2.08
Other manufacturing	33.93	36.44	41.36	35.33	32.49	27.73	2.58
Electricity, gas and water	24.95	25.10	25.00	27.41	26.97	25.97	0.38
Construction	28.08	33.15	31.12	30.98	31.19	29.51	3.39
Wholesale trade	19.23	19.62	19.97	18.43	19.43	15.78	1.65
Retail trade	16.34	16.00	17.01	15.73	17.05	16.55	1.35
Transport and storage; Communication	33.04	35.13	31.38	28.23	28.55	27.88	1.08
Public administration and defence(b)	13.49	14.31	14.46	14.74	15.94	14.61	1.07
Community services	6.49	6.48	6.50	6.40	7.37	7.02	0.37
Other(c)	12.57	11.67	12.46	10.06	10.67	9.65	0.96
All industries	19.56	19.88	20.48	18.69	18.70	17.32	0.41

(a) Relates only to latest level estimate. See paragraphs 9 to 13 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Excludes permanent defence forces. (c) Includes Finance, property and business services and Recreation, personal and other services.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Scope of the survey

All wage and salary earners who received pay for the reference period are represented in the survey, except:

- (a) members of the Australian permanent defence forces;
- (b) employees of enterprises primarily engaged in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting;
- (c) employees in private households employing staff;
- (d) employees of overseas embassies, consulates, etc.;
- (e) employees based outside Australia;
- (f) employees on workers' compensation who are not paid through the payroll.

2. Also excluded are the following persons who are not regarded as employees for the purposes of this survey:

- (a) directors who are not paid a salary;
- (b) proprietors/partners of unincorporated businesses;
- (c) self-employed persons such as subcontractors, owner/drivers, consultants and persons paid solely by commission without a retainer.

3. All vacancies (as defined in paragraph 4 of the Glossary) for wage and salary earners are represented in the survey, except those:

- (a) in the Australian permanent defence forces;
- (b) in enterprises primarily engaged in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting;
- (c) in private households employing staff;
- (d) in overseas embassies, consulates, etc.;
- (e) located outside Australia.

Survey design

4. A sample of approximately 3,800 employers is selected from the ABS register of businesses to ensure adequate State and industry representation. The sample is updated each quarter to take account of new businesses, those which have ceased operation and structural changes such as takeovers and mergers. The statistical unit for the survey comprises all activities of an enterprise in a particular State or Territory. Each statistical unit is classified to an industry which reflects the predominant activity of the enterprise in the State or Territory. In a small number of cases where an enterprise has significant employment in more than one industry, a separate statistical unit is created for each industry. The statistical units are stratified

by State, industry and size of employment and a simple random sample is selected from each stratum.

Historical series

5. The series were introduced in November 1983 when they replaced the job vacancies and overtime series based principally on information from payroll tax returns. Estimates contained in this publication are not strictly comparable with those obtained prior to November 1983.

Seasonal Adjustment

6. Seasonally adjusted series are published for national estimates in Tables 1, 4 and 5. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences can be more clearly recognized. Seasonal adjustment does not remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular period. Volatile or unsystematic influences may still affect the interpretation of movement in the series, even after adjustment for seasonal variation.

7. Seasonally adjusted data for periods back to November 1983 are available on request for those adjusted series contained in this publication. Seasonally adjusted estimates for the Manufacturing industry and some Mining industry series are also available on request back to November 1983. The seasonal factors used in compiling these series are revised annually to take account of each year's original data.

8. Details about the method of seasonal adjustment of these series are available from the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis, telephone (06) 252 6103.

Reliability of estimates

9. As the estimates in this publication are based on information relating to a sample of employers rather than a full enumeration, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if the information had been obtained from all employers. This difference, called sampling error, should not be confused with inaccuracy that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by respondents or in processing by the ABS. Such inaccuracy is referred to as non-sampling error and may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or sample. Efforts have been made to reduce non-sampling error by careful design of questionnaires, detailed checking of returns and quality control of processing.

10. The sampling error associated with any estimate can be estimated from the sample results. One measure of sampling error is given by the standard error which indicates the degree to which an estimate may vary from the value that would have been obtained from a full enumeration (the 'true' figure). There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate differs from the true value by less than one standard error, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard

errors. Seasonally adjusted estimates have a standard error similar to those applying to original series.

11. An example of the use of a standard error is as follows. If the estimated number of job vacancies was 55,000 with a standard error of 3,000, then there would be about two chances in three that a full enumeration would have given a figure in the range 52,000 to 58,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that it would be in the range 49,000 to 61,000.

12. Movements in estimates of job vacancies and overtime are considered to be statistically significant where they exceed two standard errors.

13. Another measure of the sampling error is the relative standard error, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate. Level estimates with a relative standard error of 25 per cent or more, denoted with an asterisk in this publication, are subject to sampling variability generally considered to be too high for most practical purposes.

Industry classification

14. Industry is classified according to the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC) 1983 Edition, Volume 1 - The Classification (1201.0).

Related publications

15. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available on request:

Information Paper: New Statistical Series: Employment, Average Weekly Earnings, Job Vacancies and Overtime (6256.0)

Job Vacancies, Australia (6231.0) — issued quarterly, discontinued August 1989

Overtime, Australia (6330.0) — issued quarterly, discontinued August 1989

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0) — issued monthly

Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia (6302.0) — issued quarterly

Employed Wage and Salary Earners, Australia (6248.0) — issued quarterly.

16. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the Catalogue of Publications, Australia (1101.0). The

ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a Publications Advice (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Unpublished statistics

17. Unpublished job vacancies and overtime estimates can be made available on request for various combinations of the following:

- State or Territory
- Sector (public or private)
- Broad industry grouping (see Table 6).

It should be noted, however, that estimated lower levels of disaggregation than that published in this bulletin may be subject to sampling variability considered too high for most practical purposes. Inquiries regarding data availability and associated charges should be made to the officer whose name appears in the Phone Inquiries section of the Inquiries box at the front of this publication.

Symbols and other usages

- nil or rounded to zero
- * subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes (see paragraph 13 of the Explanatory Notes)
- r revised since previous publications

18. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

Electronic Services

DISCOVERY Key *656# for selected current economic, social and demographic statistics.

AUSSTATS. Thousands of up-to-date time series are available on this ABS on-line service through PAXUS COMNET.

TELESTATS. This service provides:

- foreign trade statistics tailored to users' requirements. Further information is available on (06) 252 5404.
- text and tables for selected Main Economic Indicator publications. Further information is available on (06) 252 5405.

Floppy Disk Service

Selected ABS statistics are available on floppy disk. Further information is available on (06) 252 6684.

GLOSSARY

Average hours of overtime per employee is calculated by dividing total overtime hours paid for in a particular group by the total number of employees in the same group (including those who were not paid for any overtime).

2. *Average hours of overtime per employee working overtime* is calculated by dividing total overtime hours paid for in a particular group (e.g. industry, State or Territory) by the number of employees who were paid for overtime in the same group.

3. *Employees* refers to all wage and salary earners (as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Explanatory Notes) who received pay for any part of the reference period.

4. A *job vacancy* is a job available for immediate filling on the survey reference date and for which recruitment action had been taken. Recruitment action includes efforts to fill vacancies by advertising, by factory notices, by notifying public or private employment agencies or trade unions and by contacting, interviewing or selecting applicants already registered with the enterprise or organisation. Excluded are jobs available only to persons already employed by the enterprise or organisation. This point is particularly relevant to the Australian Public Service and the Public Services of each of the States and the Northern Territory.

Excluded are vacancies:

- (a) of less than one day's duration;
- (b) to be filled by persons already hired, or by promotion or transfer of existing employees;
- (c) to be filled by employees returning from paid or unpaid leave or after industrial dispute(s);
- (d) not available for immediate filling on the survey reference date;

(e) not available within the particular State or Territory to which the return relates;

(f) for work to be carried out under contract;

(g) for which no effort is being made to fill the position.

5. The *job vacancy rate* is calculated by expressing the number of job vacancies as a percentage of the number of employees plus vacancies.

6. *Overtime* is time worked in excess of award, standard or agreed hours of work for which payment is received. Excluded is any overtime for which employees would not receive payment, e.g. unpaid overtime worked by managerial, executive, etc. staff, normal shiftwork and standard hours paid for at penalty rates.

7. *Overtime hours* represent the number of hours of overtime paid for. Respondents are instructed not to convert overtime hours to their ordinary time equivalent. For example, 100 hours of overtime paid for at time and a half and 20 hours at double time would be counted as 120 hours, not 190.

8. *Reference date* for the survey is the third Friday of the middle month of the quarter. The reference date for the current survey is 17 August 1990.

9. *Reference period* for the survey refers to the last pay period ending on or before the reference date.

10. *Sector*. Public sector includes all local government authorities and government departments, agencies and authorities created by, or reporting to the Commonwealth and State Parliaments. All remaining employees are classified as private sector.

